

immigrated from Germany at the turn of the century, and because of prejudice and fear, was not able to receive a proper education. When Ron became a teacher, it was the fulfillment of his father's dreams to free himself and others from illiteracy.

Throughout his career, Ron Poplau has received many honors and awards for his work in the classroom. Most recently he has received the Wooster College Excellence in Teaching Award, the U.S. Army Outstanding Citizen Award, the Greg Parker Faculty Award, and has been twice recognized as the U.S.D. 512 Employee of the Year. But Ron Poplau's legacy goes far beyond his classroom.

Most importantly, Ron Poplau has helped thousands of students foster a lifelong commitment to community service. His Cougars Community Commitment program puts hundreds of students into the community every day to assist the poor, needy, and elderly. It has become a model for other school districts and been honored by local, state, and national awards.

Perhaps the definitive statement above Ron Poplau was offered by his colleague Beth Jantsch when she said, "What Ron has done by the creation of this program is to leave a legacy of community care and involvement for generation to come . . . I can only believe that this will be a better world because of the lives that have been touched and by those that will carry on the torch of caring and community involvement . . . he is our shining light."

On behalf of the people of the Third District of Kansas, I want to thank Ron Poplau for caring so much for the development of our nation's children, and for helping to strengthen our community by encouraging young people to extend their hand in friendship and service.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ronald W. Poplau of Shawnee Mission Northwest High School on his induction into the National Teachers Hall of Fame.

MARILYN SAVIN FOR OUTSTANDING LIFETIME CONTRIBUTIONS TO WOMEN'S RIGHTS

### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 1999*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to remember and pay tribute to a Connecticut woman who, during her life, worked tirelessly to advance the rights of women. Marilyn Savin devoted nearly two decades to promoting and protecting a woman's right to choose.

Through her work with the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL), both locally and nationally, Marilyn became a leading activist in the pro-choice movement, having a particular impact in the Republican Party. As a direct result of her influence, Connecticut Republicans stand out in the nation for their support of reproductive rights—an outstanding illustration of the power of her commitment and dedication.

Indeed, Marilyn was a true leader in advancing reproductive rights, family planning, and women's health. Marilyn translated principles into action by public speaking engage-

ments and public surveys. A women's right to choose is one that is constantly under attack. Those who fight to ensure that women maintain this right and have access to safe procedures, often put themselves in jeopardy for their beliefs. For this, Marilyn deserves our respect and gratitude.

As a longtime resident of the Town of Woodbridge, she was an active member of the Woodbridge Town Committee, Woodbridge Town Library, Planned Parenthood of Connecticut, and the National Coalition of Republicans for Choice. From these roots, she continued her campaign with Connecticut NARAL, serving on their Board of Directors and as chair of the state political action committee. Her tremendous involvement with the local chapter led her to serve NARAL on the national level. As a member of the Board of Directors, Foundation, Board, and the National Political Action Committee, Marilyn helped to shape the values and ideas the group continues to promote today.

Recently, the pro-choice movement sadly lost Marilyn Savin. On May 1 Connecticut NARAL will hold its 1999 Choice Celebration and Auction in her honor. This is a fitting tribute to a woman who dedicated her life and spirit to advocating the right of choice. Though her enthusiasm, energy, and commitment will be missed, the unparalleled impact of her efforts will not be forgotten.

It gives me great pleasure to stand today in honor of Marilyn Savin and join with friends, colleagues and family members as they remember this talented woman. Her dedication to this movement has truly made a difference which will be felt by women in Connecticut and across the country for years to come.

### PEACE IS OUR PROFESSION

### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 1999*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, on April 19, 1999, I had the opportunity to address the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. I spoke about the priority of peace as the profession of the United States military. My speech to that group is set forth as follows:

Many of you, I am sure, have been to the headquarters of the Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force base in Nebraska. Some of you, I know, will soon be joining that fine organization. The motto of the strategic command, which was for many years that of its predecessor, the strategic air command, is a simple, but profound statement: "Peace is our profession."

That statement expresses very well the purpose of the U.S. military. The United States does not maintain military power because it seeks to expand its rule or dominate other nations—the purpose of U.S. military power—and the reason for the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps—is to secure the peace.

"Peace is our Profession" was especially well-chosen as a motto for the strategic air command. I know that every one of your predecessors who climbed into the cockpit of a SAC bomber had to be aware of the awesome fact that loaded on board were weapons of more destructive power than had ever been unleashed in all the wars of history that had gone before. SAC was—and the stra-

tegic command remains—the steward of the most terrible military force ever created. Because of that, it was always critically important to keep the purpose of such awful power foremost in mind—to preserve peace by remaining able to make war, for it was none other than George Washington who said, "There is nothing so likely to produce peace as to be well prepared to meet an enemy."

I believe the old SAC motto remains just as relevant and appropriate today as it was during the height of the cold war. But I have to say, in the wake of our experience since the cold war ended, that peace isn't quite what many people thought it would be. Sir Michael Rose, the British general who commanded UN forces in Bosnia before the Dayton agreement, put it well in the title of his recent book, which he calls "Fighting for Peace."

In our ambiguous, complicated, demanding global environment, it is critically important that you, who are entering into the profession of arms, consider very carefully what it means to say "Peace is our profession." It is important first of all because you must understand, in your hearts as in your minds, both the great difficulty and great value of what you are doing, even when many of your fellow citizens may not always appreciate your efforts as well as they should.

Peace is difficult. It is difficult above all because it is not, as some people seem to think, the natural state of things. Peace does not just happen. Peace is not the comfortable, old rocker on the porch we would like to sink into after a hard day's work. Peace is much more like the progress of Ulysses, who sailed through storm-lashed seas only to find at each new landfall a different challenge—whether a treacherous temptation luring him from his path or an ever more devious and powerful foe.

The short history of the post-cold war era shows us one thing very clearly—that peace can only be maintained when those with the strength to do so accept their responsibility as much as possible to resist aggression, to define the rules of international order, and to enforce those rules when necessary. Peace is something that must be built anew in ever changing circumstances by the labor, the will, and sometimes the blood of each generation.

We are only beginning to see what challenges will face your generation. I hope and pray that those challenges will be, in some ways, at least, less fearsome than those your predecessors faced. God forbid we should ever again have to send our finest young people into the mechanized killing fields of the great world wars of the past century. The spread of weapons of mass destruction, therefore, makes me shudder—it is all the more important that your labor be applied to keep such awful implements from ever being used.

The great and unique challenge you face, it seems to me, is in the insidious nature of the enemy before you. In the world wars, in the cold war, in the Persian Gulf War, even in Korea and Vietnam, the enemy was apparent. Today, I think, the enemy is harder to define. Through no less dangerous, it is in some ways more difficult to grapple with because it is so difficult to see clearly. Admiral Joseph Lopez, who recently retired after serving as Commander of Allied Forces in Southern Europe, has said very wisely that "Instability is the Enemy."

That is a good way of defining it, above all because it serves to emphasize the importance of our military engagement, in all kinds of ways, with other nations around the world. But to understand that doesn't make it any easier to cope with. One problem, obviously, is that instability is everywhere. So in trying to cope with it as best we can, we